

**SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY**

LOS ANGELES RIVER CENTER AND GARDENS  
570 WEST AVENUE TWENTY-SIX  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90065  
PHONE (323) 221-8900 FAX (323) 221-9001



MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING  
*of the*  
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY  
*and the*  
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

July 28, 2003

**1. Call to Order.**

The joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chair Jerome C. Daniel, at 7:45 p.m. on July 28, 2003 at the Temescal Canyon Conference and Retreat Center, 15601 Sunset Boulevard, Pacific Palisades, California.

**2. Roll Call of Conservancy.**

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Heather Barnett, Linda Parks, Hal Ross, Woody Smeck, Steve Horn, Elizabeth Cheadle, Vice Chair, and Jerome C. Daniel, Chair. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Ed Begley and Jonathan Zasloff.

**3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.**

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Lorraine Slattery, Caroline Brown, Michael Cacciotti, Ed Corridori, Dennis Seider, Terre Hirsch, Roseann Mikos, Linda Palmer, Anthony Portantino, Kenneth Warner, and Timothy Wendler. A quorum was present upon the arrival of Mr. Brown at 8:41 pm. The following members were absent: George Lange, Chair, Don Robinson, Vice Chair, Lesley Devine, Mark Johnson, Barry Read, Rick Gould, Alan Kishbaugh, Paul Rockenstein, Thomas Seifert, Heinz Ellersieck, Nancy Stephens, and Marc Stirdivant. The following member was present subsequent to roll call: Dave Brown.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director; Laurie Collins, Chief Counsel; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; MRCA staff: Reva Feldman, Deputy Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer; Walt Young, Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations; Tim Miller, Chief of Construction; Amy Lethbridge, Deputy

Executive Officer for Education, Interpretation, and Urban Programs; Gary Lysik, Finance Director; Juliet Chung, Government Program Analyst; Simon Macguire, PC Support Technician; Katherine Chew, Staff Counsel; Deborah Lambe, Staff Counsel; Lisa Soghor, Chief of Premier Parks; Jan Wolterstorff, Public Outreach Coordinator and Project Analyst, and Tracy Dockery Staff Services Manager.

Representing the Office of the Attorney General was Nedra Austin, Deputy Attorney General.

**4. Introduction of Legislative Representatives and their staff.**

The following Legislative Representatives were present: Laura Plotkin and Mary Sue Maurer. The following Legislative Representatives were absent: Carolyn Kraft, Henry Lo, and Susan McEntire. The following member was present subsequent to roll: George Magallanes.

**5. Approval of Minutes.**

No minutes were submitted.

**6. Reports.**

The Conservancy received a verbal report from the Chair.

[Mr. Magallanes arrived at 7:48 p.m.]

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Ms. Cook.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from the Executive Director.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Edelman.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Ms. Romero.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Young.

The Conservancy received a verbal report by Ms. Lethbridge.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Miller.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by Ms. Collins and the Executive Director.

Comments were made by the Chair and the Executive Director.

**7. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.**

Comments were made by Ms. Parks, Ms. Mikos, and the Executive Director.

**8. Comments from members of the public on items not on the agenda and public testimony on all agenda items.**

Comments were made by the Chair and the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Comments were made by the Chair.

The following persons addressed the Conservancy:

Julie Ann, representing Falcon, on item 16.

Michelle Stone, representing the Sierra Club, on item 16.

Betsey Landis, representing the California Native Plant Society, Item 14.

Mary Benson, representing the Tujunga Watershed Stakeholders, on item 16.

Mark Fogwell, homeowner, on item 16.

Anders Trowetson, resident of Tujunga, on item 16.

Don Mullally, representing the Santa Clarita Woodlands Park Consortium, on items 9(b), 9(c), 9(d), 19, 20, and 21.

Steve Crouch, representing Canyon Area Preservation, on item 16.

Patricia Thompson, on item 16, letter read into record by Chair.

Comments were made by the Chair.

The Chair noted that the Consent Calendar would be heard subsequent to items 11 and 12.

**11. Presentation by Marsha McNally regarding strategic planning for Los Angeles River/Arroyo Seco Confluence and adjacent areas.**

Comments were made by the Chair and the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by Ms. McNally.

[Mr. Brown arrived at 8:41 pm]

Comments were made by the Chair.

**12. Presentation on Conservancy Watershed Division.**

Comments were made by Ms. Bullard and the Chair.

The Executive Director administered the oath of office to Dennis J. Seider, representative of the City of Malibu.

Comments were made by Mr. Seider.

Comments were made by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Advisory Committee members nominated Ms. Palmer as Chair Pro Tem in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair.

**9. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Calabasas on Mitigated Negative Declaration for New Millennium Homes Trail System, Calabasas.**
- (b) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the Regional Water Quality Control Board on Santa Clara River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) standards.**
- (c) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles County on Notice of Preparation for Bee Canyon Residential project, Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 54020, unincorporated Santa Clarita.**
- (d) **Consideration of resolution authorizing (1) the addition of Soledad Canyon - Ritter Ranch Connector, Soledad Pass/Eastern Sierra Pelona, Lower Kagel Canyon, and San Gabriel Mountains - Desert Transition Zone to the Conservancy Acquisition 2000 Workprogram and (2) the addition of said**

**projects along with Oat Mountain - Upper Southface, Towsley Canyon - Upper, Santa Clarita Woodlands, and Pico/Salt Canyon - Upper to the Initial Workprogram for the Safe Neighborhood Parks Act of 1996, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Item 9(c) was removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion by the Conservancy Board.

The Advisory Committee recommended adoption as follows:

Comments were made by Ms. Cheadle and the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Hirsch, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 03-110, 03-111, 03-112, and 03-113.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 03-110, 03-111, and 03-113.

**9(c). Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to Los Angeles County on Notice of Preparation for Bee Canyon Residential project, Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 54020, unincorporated Santa Clarita.**

Questions were propounded by Ms. Cheadle.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Brown, duly seconded, the Conservancy recommended delegating this item to a Subcommittee for consideration.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Ross, duly seconded, the Conservancy delegated this item to a Subcommittee for consideration.

**10. Consent Calendar of Coastal Items:**

- (a) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to California Department of Parks and Recreation on alternatives for the Malibu Creek State Park General Plan.\***
- (b) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority authorize acceptance of a scenic easement (portion of APN 4448-012-041) from Coastal Development Permit No. 4-02-134, 20529 Medley Lane, Topanga, unincorporated Los Angeles County.\***

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:**

On motion of Mr. Brown, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 03-114 and 03-115.

**CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:**

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 03-114 and 03-115.

The Chair noted that items 13, 14, and 15 would be heard subsequent to item 16 in order for the general public in attendance to witness the Conservancy action.

- 16. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept private funds to acquire 55.67 acres in La Tuna Canyon (APNs 2562-014-010, 2562-022-001, 2572-028-001, 002, and 003), known as the Duke Property, Los Angeles. *(This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A) of the Government Code.)***

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

The Chair called a closed session at 9:19 pm pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A) of the Government Code to discuss item 16.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 9:55 p.m. and announced that instructions were given to negotiators.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cacciotti, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-121.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Brown.

Comments were made by Mr. Edelman.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-121 as amended.

**13. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to develop comprehensive watershed plans for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy zone, contingent upon passage of the California State Budget.**

Comments were made by Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Mikos, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-118.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Mr. Brown.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Ms. Palmer.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-118.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Barnett.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Barnett.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

**14. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority on the Marvin Braude Mulholland Gateway Park Draft Environmental Impact Report, Los Angeles.**

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Executive Director recommended postponing item 14.

**15. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Moorpark on the Draft Environmental Impact Report and Specific Plan for the North Park Village project.**

Comments were made by the Executive Director and the Chair.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Brown, duly seconded, the Conservancy recommended delegating this item to a Subcommittee for consideration.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Ross, duly seconded, the Conservancy delegated this item to a Subcommittee for consideration.

Comments were made by Ms. Mikos, the Chair, and the Executive Director.



Comments were made by Ms. Mikos.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Cheadle.

Comments were made by Ms. Mikos.

- 17. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (a) acquire approximately 54 acres in Santa Maria Canyon (APNs 4434-001-012; 4434-007-001, and 4434-008- 005); (b) accept other public funds, and (c) authorize sale and transfer to the National Park Service, unincorporated Topanga Canyon. *(This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A) of the Government Code.)***

This item was removed from the agenda.

- 18. Consideration of resolution authorizing the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Park Service, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, for financial support of the Heart-of-the-Park Shuttle Demonstration Project, and recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority join in such memorandum.**

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cacciotti, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-123.

Comments were made by Ms. Mikos.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle , duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-123.

Comments were made by Mr. Smeck.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Ross.

Comments were made by Mr. Smeck and Ms. Plotkin.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Cheadle.

Comments were made by Mr. Smeck.

- 19. Consideration of resolution amending the Newhall Pass Wildlife Corridor--West of I-5 project in the Land Acquisition Workprogram to include additional land in East Canyon/Leaming Canyon between Santa Clarita Woodlands Park and The Old Road, unincorporated Newhall area.**

Comments were made by Mr. Edelman.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Brown, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-124.

Comments were made by Mr. Brown.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Barnett, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-124.

- 20. Consideration of resolution amending the Newhall Pass Wildlife Corridor--West of I-5 Project Plan to include additional land in East Canyon/Leaming Canyon between Santa Clarita Woodlands Park and The Old Road, unincorporated Newhall area.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Brown, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-125.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-125.

- 21. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 40 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to acquire approximately 11 acres (Holland property) APNs 2826-025-022 and 016, adjacent to Santa Clarita Woodlands Park/East Canyon, unincorporated Newhall area. *(This item may be heard in closed session pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A) of the Government Code.)***

This item was discussed in closed session.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

**22. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority enter into a Lease and Joint Use Agreement with the Los Angeles Unified School District to develop and operate the Vista Hermosa Park, Los Angeles.**

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:**

On motion of Ms. Mikos, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-127.

**CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:**

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-127.

Comments were made by Mr. Magallanes, Ms. Barnett, the Chair and the Executive Director.

Comments were made by Ms. Cheadle.

**23. Closed Session: (The Conservancy may hold a closed session on the following items pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A), Section 11126.3(a), and Section 11126 Subdivision (e) of the Government Code. Confidential memoranda related to the following items may be considered during such closed session discussions.) Discussion and possible action regarding pending and/or potential litigation: *Parker v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.; Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission; Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority v. Soka University of America, and related cross-complaint: Soka University of America v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.***

The Chair called a closed session at 10:25 pm pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A) of the Government Code to discuss item 21.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 10:32 p.m. and announced that instructions were given to negotiators.

Comments were made by Ms. Collins.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Brown, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 03-126 as amended.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 03-126 as amended.

**24. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.**

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on September 22, 2003.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP  
Executive Director

JEROME C. DANIEL  
Chair